

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10, 12-20, 22-28, 30-42, and 44-52 are currently pending. Claims 11, 21, 29, 43, and 53 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 5-10, 12-20, 25, 26, 28, 30, 34, 42, 44, and 48-52 are amended. No new matter is added.<sup>1</sup>

In the outstanding Office Action, the abstract was objected to; Claims 44, 48, and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite; Claims 1-, 20, 28, 42, and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter; and Claims 1-9, 11-19, 21-27, 29-41, 43, 45-47, 49-51, and 53 were indicated as allowed.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 1-9, 11-19, 21-27, 29-41, 43, 45-47, 49-51, and 53 are allowable.

Regarding the objection to the abstract, the abstract has been amended to be in conformance with the guidelines stated in M.P.E.P. §608.01(b). Thus, the objection to the abstract is believed to have been overcome.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, rejection, Claims 44, 48, and 52 have been amended to address the issues set forth on page 2 of the Official Action. Thus, the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection is believed to have been overcome.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 10, 20, 28, 42, and 52 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, these claims have been amended to recite a computer readable storage medium encoded with a computer program configured to cause an information processing apparatus to execute a method, and thus define statutory subject matter. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection has been overcome.

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<sup>1</sup> Claims 5 and 9 were amended to correct the multiple dependencies therein. Claim 13 was amended to correct a typographical error therein. Claims 5-10, 12-20, 25, 26, 28, 30, 34, 42, 44, and 48-52 were amended to clarify features previously presented.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 34,648

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/07)